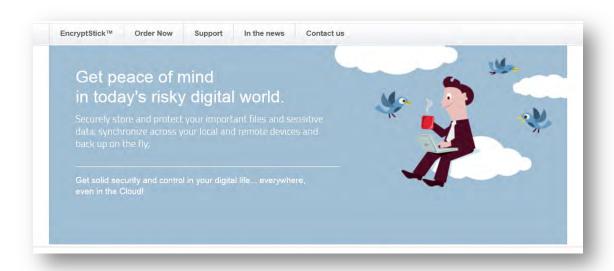
# EncryptStick 6.0 User Manual – Edition 1.0

For Windows Users

# **ENCRYPTSTICK**





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### **Introduction to EncryptStick™**

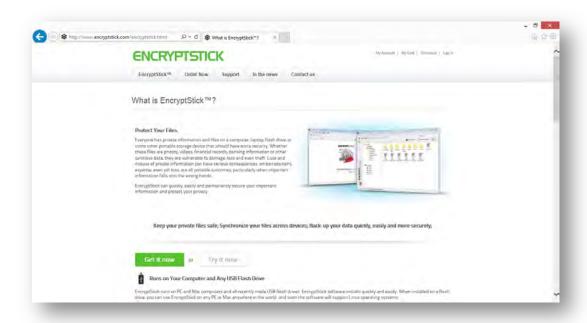
Congratulations on your decision to purchase EncryptStick™, the world's foremost and best data protection software. Like most people, you keep a treasure trove of private information, on your computer or other storage devices: important documents, photos, videos, financial records and other sensitive data that make up your digital life, and that deserve the protection you would want for any property you own.

Each and every day, cybercriminals are at work, hacking into computer systems and making off with private files and sensitive information. Now, with EncryptStick, you have an easy to use program, with all the tools needed to protect your important files and data from unauthorized access and malicious or criminal misuse. The possible consequences of information falling into the wrong hands: identity theft, embarrassment, job loss, or worse... will no longer be your concern, when you take the few seconds needed for EncryptStick to permanently secure all your important documents and sensitive data.

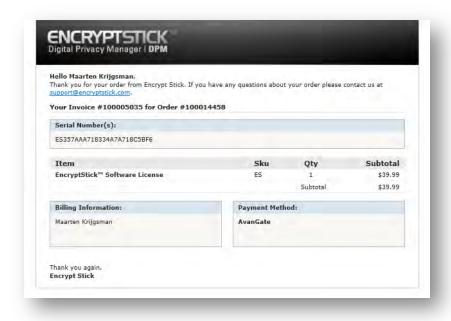
Whether you are securing your vital information on your desktop, laptop, flash drive, or some other storage device, With EncryptStick you can now have peace of mind and full control of your digital life.

### **Installation Steps**

The 1<sup>st</sup> step is to visit our website <a href="www.EncryptStick.com">www.EncryptStick.com</a> and click on the "Get it now" or "Try it now" button as shown below:



After you click the "Get it now" or "Try it now" button, you will be directed to the one-page Checkout form. Once you fill in the details correctly and pay the amount shown on the screen, you will receive an email invoice as shown below, with the product license details and a 25-digit serial number to use for activating your license:



The 25-digit serial number will be required during the installation procedure.

The next step is to download the software from the website at <a href="www.encryptstick.com/download">www.encryptstick.com/download</a> and run the executable file to proceed with the installation. Once you have downloaded the software for your PC, Mac, or Laptop computer, you will see a welcome screen as shown below:



The steps are self-explanatory and the Setup Wizard will guide you through the installation. Click "Next" and you will get a screen showing the End User License Agreement (EULA), as shown below. You should read the entire EULA before clicking "I Agree".



The "I Do Not Agree" radio button is pre-selected by default. Once you click on "I Agree" you will be able to press the "Next" Button as shown below, and proceed:

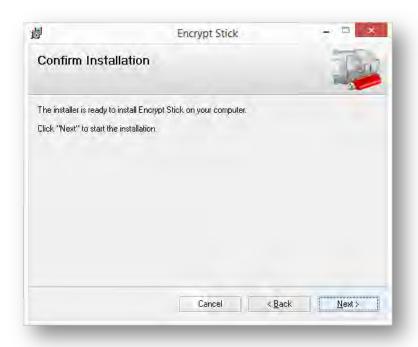


Now you need to choose the installation folder location. On the computer hard drive, the software must be installed in the Program Files folder (Applications Folder for Mac); you can choose to install EncryptStick on a USB flash drive.



Select "Just Me" as shown above, if you do not want anyone else to have access to your data.

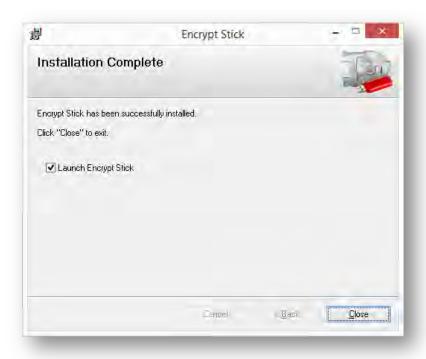
Now you see a screen asking you to confirm that installation should proceed. At this point you should insert a flash drive into your computer's USB port, since this is required in order to complete the installation.



Once you click "Next" the installation will start and you will see the progress bar.



The EncryptStick Setup Wizard will automatically install the software in a matter of seconds.



Once the installation process is complete click "Close". The software will then look for the USB flash device and give you the prompt below if it is not plugged onto your PC or laptop:

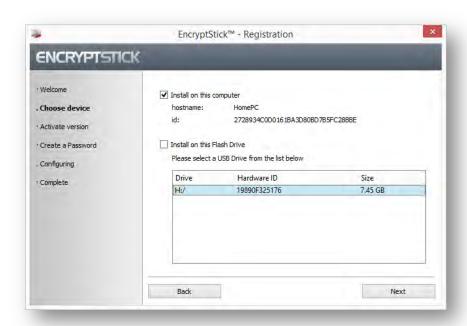


Insert the flash drive into the USB port and click "Yes" to proceed with registration.

The Welcome screen will appear, giving you the option to either try or buy the software:

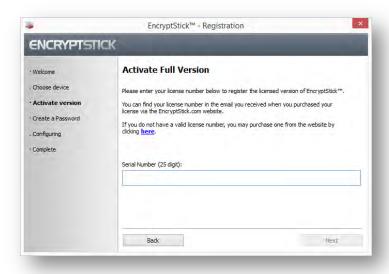


If you have the license key, you can activate it right away, or you can click on "Here" to buy a license. When you click on either "Try It" or "Activate your License Now", you will be redirected to the Registration screen:



On the Registration screen you will see a list of all the USB flash drives connected to your PC or laptop. Now you have 3 choices: you can install the software onto your computer, or to a flash drive, or to both your PC/Laptop and a flash drive. Installing to a flash drive is particularly useful when you travel and carry the flash drive only, since you can access and edit your documents from any computer. You can use your single license to activate up to three devices.

You can now click "Next" to activate your software with the license key. You will then be redirected to the license activation screen shown below:



Once you enter you license key (25-digit serial number), the "Next" button is enabled. Clicking "Next" will open the Create Password screen.

On the "Create Password" screen below, you will set your password for access to the software. This is needed to initialize your vault and also each time you want to access your protected files and folders in future.

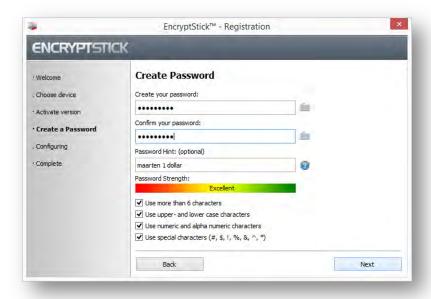
**Important Note:** This password is very important, since without it you have no way to open your EncryptStick vault or access your files and folders. Only you know the password.

There is no way to recover your password if you forget it, so make sure it is memorable to you, and committed to memory right away.

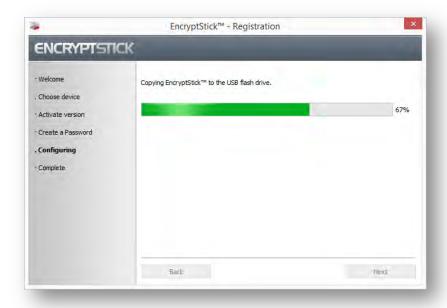
You should set your password with a combination of characters, numbers and special characters as shown in the screen below: By default, the option of using special characters are deselected, you may use them by ticking the last checkbox shown in the screen below. Passwords employing a combination of upper and lower case characters, numbers, and one or two special characters are stronger, more unpredictable and less likely to be guessed.



Once you have set your password in accordance with the criteria selected, the Password Strength indicator will tell you the quality of your password, and the "Next" button will be enabled.



Click "Next" to complete the registration and start the configuration process of the EncryptStick™ software. The screen below will show you the progress of configuration of the software and your hardware devices.



When configuration has completed, click "Next" to see setup results.

When setup is complete, you will see the screen below, at which point you can safely assume that your installation was successfully completed.



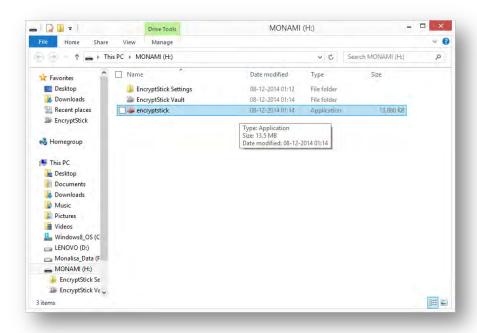
After you click "Finish", the following screen will appear.



You will get the above screen each time you open the EncryptStick software, however if you do not want this reminder in future, check the box "Do not show again".

### **How to Login**

After you have successfully installed and setup the EncryptStick™ Software, you will get to the login screen by clicking on the EncryptStick icon on your computer desktop, or by locating the "encryptstick" application file on the enabled USB Flash Drive as shown below:



To open the software from the flash drive and get to the login screen, open the USB and select the application file. Double click on the file and the login screen shown below will appear:



**Note**: If you are using EncryptStick on a publicly available computer, or a guest computer that you suspect may be compromised by malware, then it is recommended that you use the virtual keyboard to enter your password. The virtual keyboard dramatically reduces the risks of your keystrokes being intercepted by malware that may have installed itself on the computer. This feature uses advanced memory management and encryption technology to defeat malware. It keeps your password safer by preventing malware from intercepting your keystrokes, or mouse positions, orscreen capture images. Launch the virtual keyboard by clicking on the icon to the right of the password entry field.



While you click a number or a character on the virtual keyboard, you will notice that the keys automatically reposition randomly after each click – another anti-malware feature.



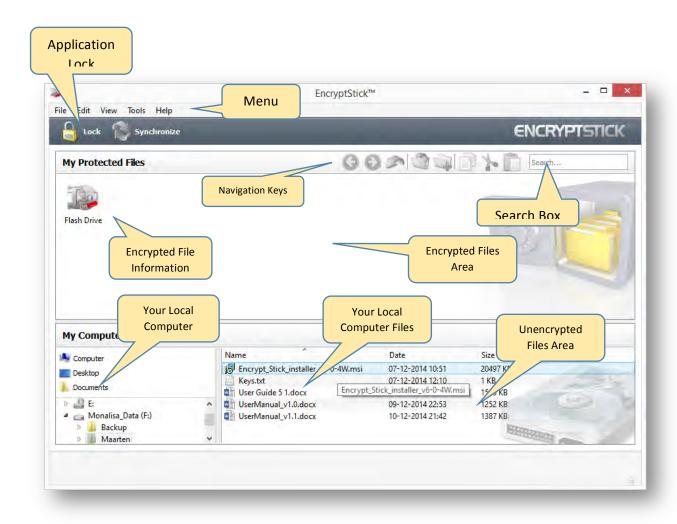
After you enter your correct password, the software will open and the operating panel will display as shown in the screen below:



Now you are ready to protect your important files with EncryptStick, and get peace of mind!

### **EncryptStick™ Home Screen**

The figure shown below will give you a clear idea about the functionalities available in the system.



**Application Lock** – Click on this "hot key" to quickly lock the vault and stop others from seeing what is happening in the background; this action returns you to the login screen.

**Menu** – The uppermost bar of the above software interface screen shows the Menu items: File, Edit, View, Tools and Help. When you click on any menu item, a dropdown sub-menu appears.

**Navigation keys** – Click on the keys to navigate in the vaults, create new files and folders, or use the cut, copy and paste features to move files to and from within the two windows.

**Search Box** –In the Search Box, type the name of a file, folder or vault that you want to search for, and it will appear in the "My Protected Files" pane.

**Encrypted File information** – Click to open and see information about vaults, folders and files that have been encrypted using Encrypt Stick. Information available includes: names, dates, size, path (location) of your encrypted items. You can customize this view by right clicking your mouse while your pointer is over the header bars above the line information displayed.

**Encrypted Files area** – Right click in the open space area to reveal the functions that are available for action without using the drop down menus

**Local computer** – Displays the resources that are available on the host computer that is running the software application.

**Local Computer Files** – Displays the files stored in your local computer. If you select a file and right click on it, you will be allowed to rename, copy, move or delete the file.

#### **Vault Maintenance and new Vaults**

The Home screen is divided horizontally into two sections, an upper pane that contains "My Protected Files" and a lower panel that is "My Computer". You create your new vaults in the upper section and within those vault(s) you can keep your encrypted files. You can create new vaults in two ways:

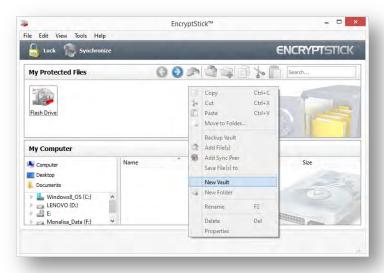
- 1. You can go to the File Menu and select "New Vault";
- 2. You can right click on the "My Protected Files" area and select "Vault" from the dropdown menu;

The following screenshots show the ways you can create a new vault.

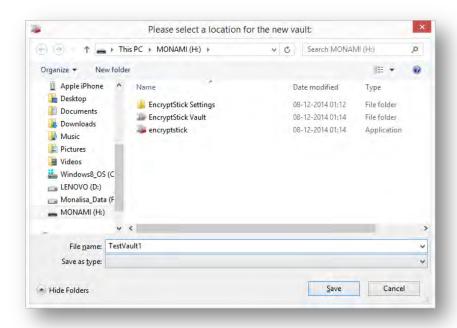
Option 1: Click "File" on the Menu bar and click on "New Vault"



Option2: Right click on the Protected files pane and click on "Vault"



Either option will take you to the next screen



Name the New Vault (eg. "TestVault1" and click the "Save" button. The new vault will appear on the encryption pane with the name you gave it, as shown below:



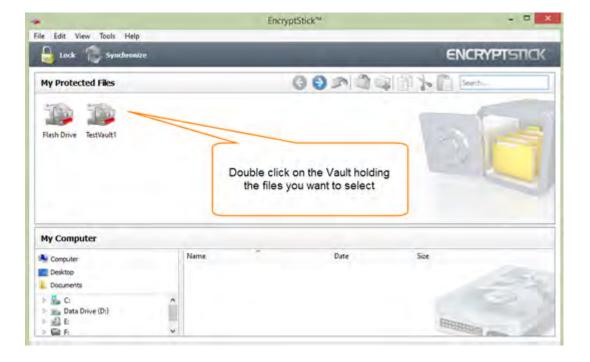
The vault is now created and you can select the files and folders you want to add to the encrypted vault.

Right click on the vault to see the editing options available. The following screen shows the options for handling and editing your vaults.



### How to "Save File(s) to" Other Locations

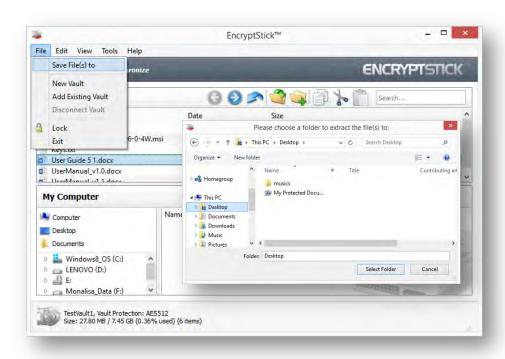
You can save your files from a vault to other locations, using the software. In order to save files from the vault to your hard drive, a USB drive or any other external storage device, you can only do so by accessing the vaults and files using the EncryptStick software as shown below:



Double click on the vault icon to open it and display your encrypted files and folders. Click on the file or folder to select it. You can select multiple files or folders by clicking the files/folders while pressing the [Ctrl] key. For Mac OS, press the [Command] key while selecting the files/folders.



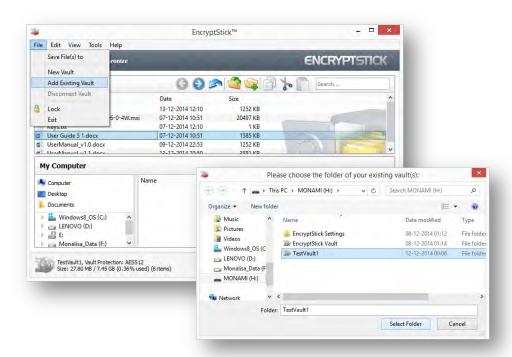
Once you have selected the file(s) or folder(s) that you want to copy to a location on your hard drive, desktop or another connected device, click on the "File" Menu and click on the "Save File(s) to" option as shown below. Then browse to the location you want to copy the files.



Click on the desired destination folder, and click "Save" to put the files in the desired location.

#### **Add an Existing Vault**

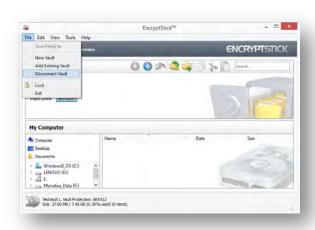
You may want to reconnect an existing vault that you disconnected earlier. To reconnect the vault, select the "Add existing Vault" from the "File" Menu and select the vault as shown below:



Please note that you will be prompted to enter your password while adding a vault. You will need to provide the password in use when the vault was created,, in order to add it to your device.

#### **Disconnecting a Vault**

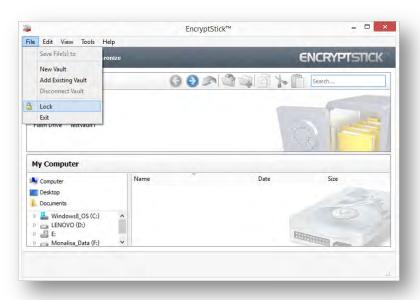
If you want to disconnect a vault, select the vault and click "Disconnect Vault" from the "File" menu as shown below:



A window will appear asking you to confirm that you want to disconnect the vault, and it will be then disconnected.

### **Locking Vaults or Exiting EncryptStick**

Click the "Lock" button or select the "Lock" option in the "File" menu to protect the information in the background from viewing. The program does not close, and you are returned to the login screen.



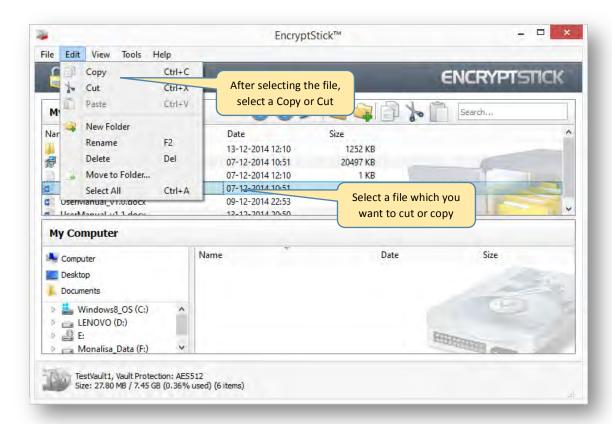
You may select the "Lock" Button as shown below:

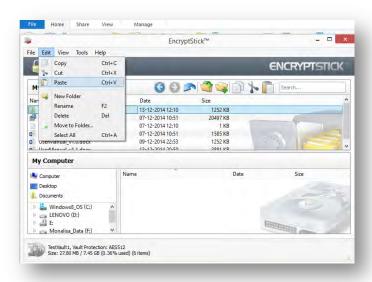


To exit and close the program click "Exit" in the File Menu, or click on the red X above the menus.

### **How to Cut, Copy and Paste Files**

You may cut or copy a file from one vault and paste it in another vault as shown below:

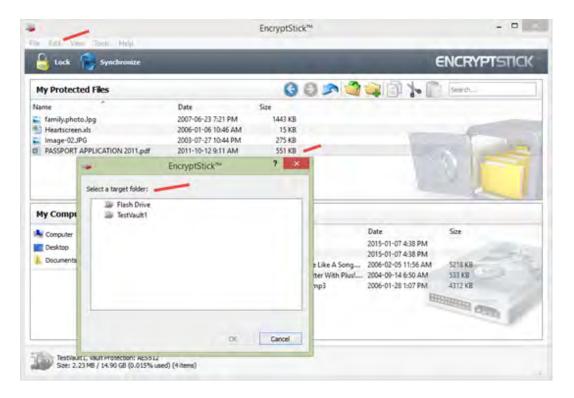




. The "Select All" Option under the "Edit" menu will allow you to select all the files of the folder to either cut, copy, paste or delete.

### **How to Move Files in Folders**

Select the file in the open vault to be moved, then click on the Edit Menu, and the "Move to Folder" option. The screen will display the folders available, as shown below. Select the target folder to move the specified file(s)



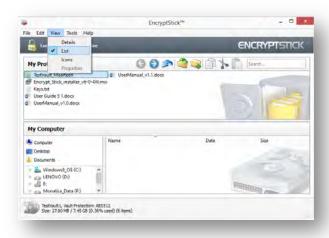
### **View Menu**

The "View" menu gives three options for viewing the list of the files:

1. The "Details" view shows you the file names, sizes, and the latest edit dates.



2. The "List" view displays a list by file name.



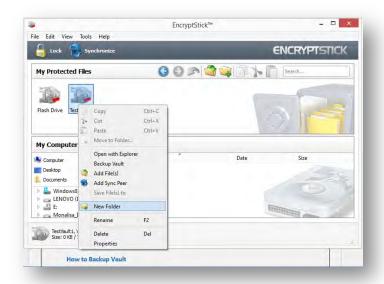
3. The "Icon" view shows files by name and icons for type of file.



### **How to Create a New Folder in a Vault**

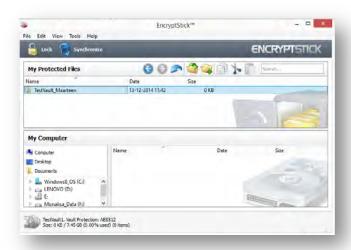
A Vault is like a container or a cupboard in which you can create folders where you can securely store your files, documents etc.

To create a new folder inside your vault, right click on the relevant vault; a popup menu with the option "New Folder" appears:



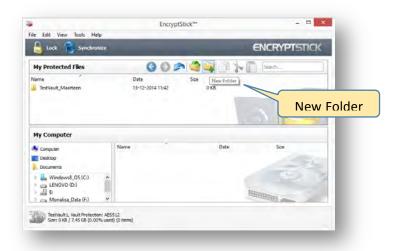
Click on "New Folder" and the following screen appears; name the new folder you want to create and click OK.





The new folder will be displayed in the upper pane, as shown above.

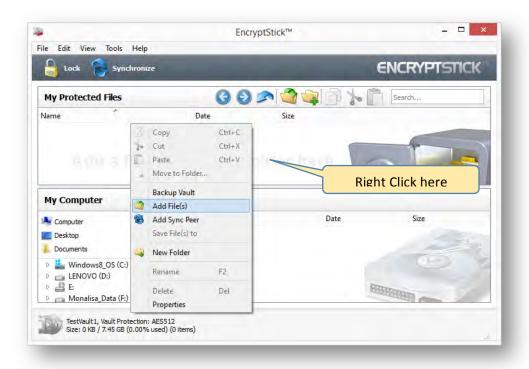
Alternatively you can use the "New folder" Navigation Key to create a new folder as shown below:



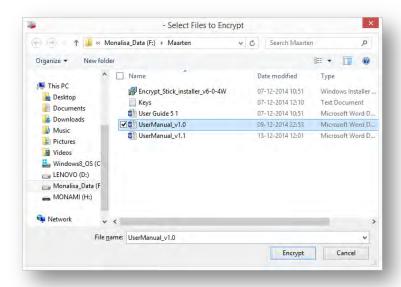
### **How to Add Files to the New Folder**

You can now add files to the newly created folder. Double click on the new folder to open it, and add the files you want to encrypt and protect. The screens below show the procedures for adding files to a newly created folder, or any folder:





The file dialogue box appears, allowing you to select the files you want.



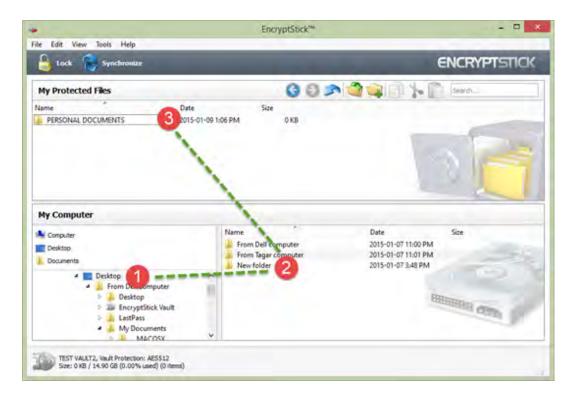
Select the desired file(s) and click the "Encrypt" button. The file(s) will be added to the open folder in the vault. A message will popup asking if you would like to permanently remove the original file(s) from the computer after the transfer to the vault is completed. At that point you need to decide whether you wish to keep the original file at its source location, or permanently remove it, after a copy is stored securely in the vault.

### How to Drag and Drop Files to a Folder

Another way to copy or move files or folders from your computer to a vault folder is to drag and drop them.

In this example you want to copy an entire folder from your desktop to a vault folder named "Personal Documents". You can open this destination folder, or leave it closed, as in this example.

(1) Click on **Desktop** in **My Computer** to view the folder in the lower pane. (2) Click and hold the mouse button to drag the folder from the lower pane to the folder in the Protected Files pane. (3) Highlight the target folder "Personal Documents" with the mouse pointer and release the mouse to drop the folder. You now have an encrypted copy of the source folder in the Vault.



### How to Rename a Vault

To rename a vault, right click on the relevant vault, or from the menu bar click on File>Edit>Rename.



A text box will appear; enter the new name and click OK to complete the name change; the vault will appear on the Protected Files Pane with the new name.



#### How to Delete a Vault

If you wish to delete any Vault, to select the Vault which you wish to delete, you can either use the File Menu "Edit" menu or just right click on the Vault.



You will then see a message asking you to confirm your request to delete the vault specified. If you click "Yes" the vault and all of its contents will be permanently removed from your system.



## How to "Change Password"?

To change your password required to open the software and access your vaults, click on the "Tools" Menu, and click on "Change Password".



When you click "Change Password", the screen below will appear. You have to provide your current password and the new password twice. Once you have given the new password and press "OK", your new password will be effective. Next time you try to log in, you will have to provide the new password.

**IMPORTANT NOTE**: After you change your password, you should immediately perform a backup of your vault data. If you ever need to restore your vault data from a backup, the password in use at the time that backup was made will be required in order to restore your vault.

We encourage you to make backing up your vault data a part of your normal daily maintenance routine.

See "How to Backup Vault Data" on page 38 of this Manual for details on procedure.



#### How to Share a Private Vault

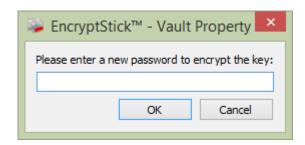
With EncryptStick, you can share one of your vaults and its file contents in private with another person who uses EncryptStick software. A private vault can be shared with anyone who has EncryptStick installed on their computer, by e-mail, by secure link via Dropbox or Google drive for example, or on portable media (flash drive, CD, DVD).

To enable this feature, you assign a password directly to the specific vault, with the following steps:

Right click on the Vault and click on Properties; the screen below will appear:



Under the Info tab, click on "Set Vault Password"; the window below will appear; enter the Vault password in the window:



The Vault now has an encrypted key, and that key in combination with the password you assigned, will open the vault

## How to Synchronize Vaults and Peer Folders

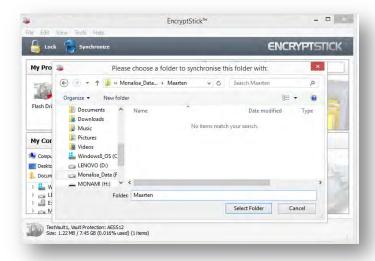
Individual vaults can be linked with any folder(s) on your PC (by using Windows Explorer or File Explorer] or on your Mac [using Finder]. Once linked to any peer folder(s), the vault and folder(s) are synchronized on command.

Any selected folders or files on your Mac, Windows or Linux PC can be synced with vaults in any location. To sync your vault with a folder on your PC or Laptop, follow the steps below:

• Right click on the vault and select "Add Sync Peer" from the menu;



Choose a folder on your computer to be synchronized with the vault; Click "Open"



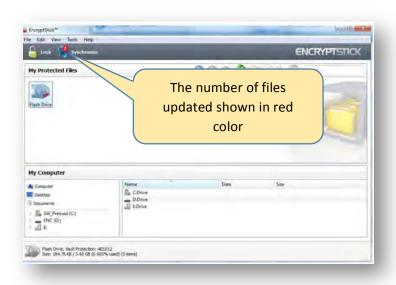
- The files in the vault and in the folder on the computer will now synchronize;
- A synchronization window will open showing the synchronization progress;



You will be notified when synching is finished, click "Close".

The pairing of a vault and folder(s) for synching can also be completed using the menu bar: on the Menu bar select "Tools", and perform the above steps;

If any files have been changed, added or deleted a red dot is superimposed on the "Synchronize" icon that shows the number of files that have been updated on either the vault or the peer folder, and as a reminder to synch the peers.



#### **How to Backup Vault Data**

Just as it is important to back up your computer files regularly, we strongly recommend that you perform a backup of your protected files (vault data) as a part of your regular routine. A vault is simply an encrypted folder and like any other folder on a flash drive, is vulnerable to loss or damage, or data corruption.

To complete a backup of your vaults from any location, follow these simple steps:

#### **Select Backup location**

- Click on "Tools" in the menu bar and select "Options"
- On the Options screen, select the "Locations" tab.
- You can back either of 2 locations: the Application Data, or My Documents;
- Select "Ok"



#### Make the Backup

Click on "Tools" in the menu bar and select "Backup Vault Data".

By default all vaults are selected for backup.



.

Once you select the "Backup Vault Data" option, you will be shown the location and the vaults which you would like to back up, as shown in the below mentioned figure:

You can choose to not back up a vault by unchecking a box;



After you click the "Backup" Button, the backup will be made automatically;

Bars will show the backup progress for each vault, as shown in the following screen, and will notify you upon completion of the backup:



When the backup is completed successfully, click OK.

#### **Keep Several Backups**

You can specify how many backups are kept, as follows:

- Click on "Tools" in the menu bar and select "options";
- Select the "Locations" tab;
- Check the box "Enable automatic backup retention";
- Select the number of Backups you want to keep, (current and prior versions);
- Select "Ok"



# **How to Restore a Vault Backup**

With EncryptStick, you can easily restore a vault from an earlier backup. Click on "Tools" in the menu bar and select "Restore Vault Data".



After you click "Restore Vault Data", you will see the following screen:



Select the vault that you want to restore; the following screen will appear:

# EncryptStick™ - Restore Wizard Please select the backup to be restored and click 'Next' to proceed. Name Age Size Date Flash Drive Today 1 KB 14/12/2014 Back Next Cancel

# After you select the vault to restore, click "Next"



When you click "Restore", the existing vault data will be overwritten with data from the backup Therefore, you should be very cautious when restoring vault data.

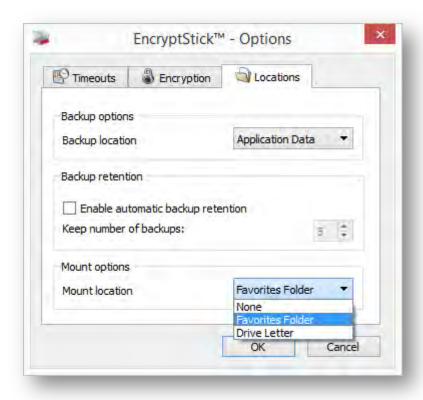
#### Mount a vault as a Drive letter in Windows or as a Favorite within Windows

#### **Explorer**

When you create a vault, EncryptStick gives you the option to mount it as a drive letter in Windows, or as a Favourite within Windows Explorer (or File Explorer). It can be very helpful to display the vault with its assigned drive letter. For example, if your hard drive is C:/ and your flash drive is E:/, the feature assigns the vault the next available drive letter and displays F/:

Mounting a vault is very easy and can be done as shown in the following screens:

- In the Menu bar, click on Tools> Options> Locations;
- On the Locations screen under "Mounting Options", select from the three options available in "Mount Location": None, Favorites Folder, or Drive Letter.



If you select the "Favorites Folder" option, the vault will appear in your Windows Favorites Folder and a folder called "EncryptStick" will appear; click on this folder to display your mounted vault(s).

If you select the "Drive Letter" option, the drive letter appears as "Vault\_Name (F:)" (for our purposes here F: represents the next drive letter available on your computer;

If you do not want to mount the vault, click "OK" or "Cancel"

For security reasons, your vault location settings only appear when the EncryptStick™ application is running; if the program is locked, a Drive letter or Favorites folder will not appear;

#### **How to Repair a Damaged Vault**

Situations may arise that can potentially damage your hardware and also your vault(s). Mishandling a flash drive, or premature ejection in unsafe conditions, a sudden power surge or drop, or an abrupt shutdown of a computer can all cause damage to your vault(s). EncryptStick has a vault repair feature to help with repair data corruption in your vault(s) in case of such events.

To use the Vault Repair tool, click on a Vault, and on the Menu bar click "View" and select "Properties" as shown below:



When you select "Properties", the following screen is shown:



When you click on "Repair vault", the repair sequence will be automatically initiated, and a window will open advising you when the repair has been successfully completed, as shown in the screen below:



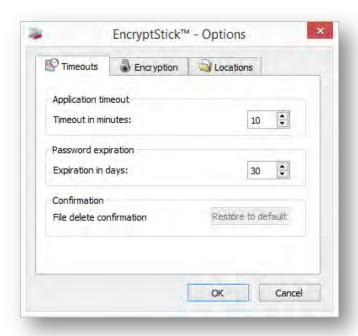
### **Encryption Levels**

EncryptStick is a very robust data protection software application that employs the most advanced encryption techniques and very strong AES (Advanced Encryption Standards) encryption algorithms. AES cryptography is U.S. Government approved, and 256-bit AES encryption is used by the U.S. military.

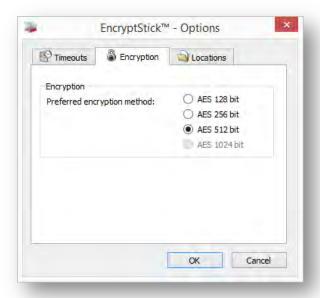
With EncryptStick you have the option to select a preferred encryption level when you create new vaults. For a new vault you can choose to protect its data with 128-bit, 256-bit or 512-bit AES. Soon we will offer 1024-bit encryption, our highest level of encryption strength.

Note: The level of encryption you choose for a new vault will be applied to each new vault created thereafter.

The system is set to select 512-bit AES by default. To select a different leval for a new vault, click on "Tools" on the Menu bar. When you click on "Options" the screen below will open; click on "Encryption":



After you select the "Encryption" tab, the screen below opens and you can choose your preferred encryption level; click "OK".

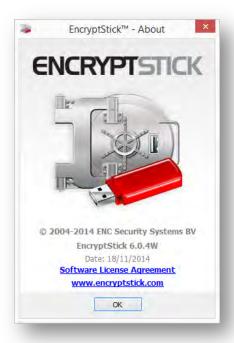


# How to Upgrade from EncryptStick™ version 5.4.x to EncryptStick™ 6.0.x

It is indeed very easy to upgrade **EncryptStick**™ if you are using 5.4.x version. In case you need an update, the first activity for you is t check the current version of your EncryptStick software. With the application running, click on "Help" on the Menu bar and then click "About" and the current version of your EncryptStick software will be displayed as shown below



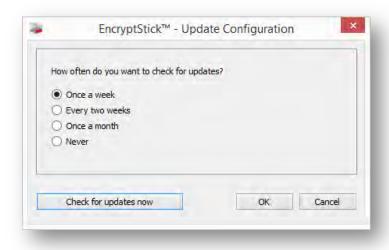
Click the "About" button to see what version of EncryptStick you are currently running, as shown below:



Starting with Version 5.4.1, EncryptStick has an auto-update feature that checks your current version and looks to see I any updates are available. This check takes place when you start the application and before you login. To manually check for available updates, on the Menu bar click Help=>Check for Updates. The update configuration screen will open.



On the screen below, you can set the frequency that the auto-updater will check for available updates. You can also press the "Check for Updates Now" button, to see if any updates are currently available.





If there is no update available, you will get the following screen:



# How To Upgrade from the Trial Version to the Fully Functional Version of EncryptStick (for Trials started before January 9, 2015)

For those trials that started before January 9, 2015 using EncryptStick 6.0.4 and prior versions, certain features in the trial were limited. Users of these trial versions can easily upgrade to the latest full version, by following the steps below:

- 1. Go to the website page https://www.encryptstick.com/download; click on "BUY IT"
- 2. The Checkout page will open;
- 3. Complete the order and registration form and make your payment;
- 4. An invoice, with order details and a 25-digit code will be emailed to you;
- Go back to this page: <a href="https://www.encryptstick.com/download">https://www.encryptstick.com/download</a> and Click on the Windows,
   Mac, or Linux button to download the correct installer file;
- 6. Run the installer file; during the installation, the Install Wizard will require you to enter the 25-digit serial code; copy and paste the activation code to the box provided from the email you received;
- 7. When the installation of the software is completed, the application will be launched;
- 8. Login, using the same password you created on setup of the Trial Version;

#### Switching From a Time-Limited Trial to the Licensed Version of EncryptStick

For orders placed after January 9, 2015, the full version of EncryptStick software (version 6.0.5 for Windows, Mac or Linux) is free to try for 14 days. Before the end of the 14-day trial period, you need to buy a license in order to enjoy continued and uninterrupted use of EncryptStick.

If you do not purchase a license to use the software, the following will result:

- All features, including file encryption, synchronizing of vaults with peer folders, and secure backups of vault data will no longer function;
- You will not be able to add, remove or edit files in vaults, or create new vaults;
- You will be able to read files in vaults, and copy them from within vaults to other locations;

At any time during your 14-day trial, or after it has expired, you can buy an EncryptStick license by following the download and installation steps shown in the 8 steps above.

#### TROUBLESHOOTING AND MAINTENANCE

### What To Do if You Lose Your EncryptStick-enabled USB flash drive

If your flash drive with your private files is damaged or lost, the data in your EncryptStick vaults is secure and inaccessible to anyone. If you have made regular backups of your vault(s), you can recover your data from a backup following the steps below:

- Insert a replacement flash drive in your computer's USB port;
- Go to: http://www.encryptstick.com/download
- Download and install EncryptStick (Windows, Mac or Linux version);
- During installation, activate the flash drive as a replacement drive using your existing license
  activation code (if you have used all the device activations available on your existing license,
  you will need to buy a new license);
- Go to your Flash Drive using Windows Explorer (in Windows) of Finder (on a Mac)
- Login to EncryptStick using your existing password;
- On the Menu bar click "Tools" => "Restore Vault Data"; The following screen will open:



After selecting the vault to be restored, click Next; the following screen will appear asking you to select the Backup to be restored;



Select the Vault and click next to continue to the next screen; here you will be advised that a vault will be restored from the backup;

Click Restore to proceed:



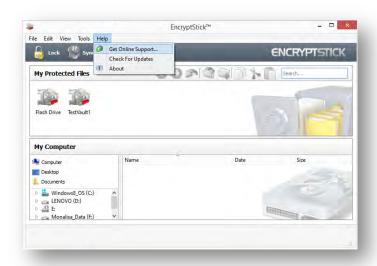
Once the vault has been successfully restored from the backup, you will see the screen below; you can close the Restore Wizard.



**Important Note:** Proper backup procedures must be followed for the Lost Flash Drive Data Recovery tool to work effectively.

# How to get online support?

To open online support from the program, click "Get Online Support" option in the "Help" menu as shown below:



Once you click the "Get Online Support" option, you will be redirected to our online support web page. In case you have lost your activation serial number, you can have it resent to you by entering the email address you used for the original order.

The FAQs are also available on this support page.